

Murray City Municipal Council Chambers Murray City, Utah

The Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, met on Tuesday, the 24th day of January 2006 at 6:30 p.m., for a meeting held in the Murray City Council Chambers, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

Roll Call consisted of the following:

Krista Dunn,	Council Chair
Pat Griffiths,	Council Member - Excused
Robbie Robertson,	Council Member - conducted
Jim Brass,	Council Member
Jeff Dredge,	Council Member

Other who attended:

Daniel Snarr,	Mayor
Jan Wells,	Chief of Staff
Frank Nakamura,	City Attorney
Shannon Huff Jacobs,	Council Director
Carol Heales,	City Recorder
P. Gary Ferrero,	Murray City Judge
Michael Williams,	Court Administrator
Keith Snarr,	Economic Development
Josh Yost,	Economic Development
Pete Fondaco,	Chief of Police
Doug Hill,	Public Services, Director
Dale Whittle,	Human Resources
Don Whetzel,	Finance
David Larsen,	MIS Director
Gil Rodriguez,	Fire Chief
Phil Roberts,	Fire Department
Jesse Valenzuela,	Fire Department
Ron Koller,	Treasurer
Cathy McKittrick,	Salt Lake Tribune
Gary Merrill,	General Manager, Power Department
Pat Jones,	Utah House
Tim Cosgrove,	State Representative
Mark A. Wheatley,	Utah House
Dave Wilde,	County Council Member
Crystal Liechty,	Murray Journal
Citizens	

Mr. Robertson conducted the meeting

A. OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Randy Willden, Battalion Chief, Fire Department

2. Approval of Minutes

None

3. Special Recognition(s)

- a. Presentation of Mayor Daniel C. Snarr's "State of the City" address for 2006.

Good evening, everyone. As we close the chapter on 2005 and open the next one into 2006, I'd like to invite you to join me tonight in a journey. Together we can become explorers of past successes and visionaries of future ones.

Sometimes we miss the accomplishments of everyday effort as we look to see what is around the next corner. As goals and plans are made in the budgeting process, we don't always examine and appreciate the results of the efforts of our dedicated staff. Let's begin our exploration by looking right here to find some of the progress that took place in Murray City.

The definition of the word 'explore' is to 'study in order to find information.' One way to study is visually and that is how we can begin our search tonight. Each of our departments in the City compiled achievements from 2005. It would take too long to list all of them, but here are a few key successes from their reports:

Our Attorney's Office this year provided the legal work for the Fireclay Redevelopment Project Area along with developing the Transit Oriented Development Ordinance to be showcased in that project. They handled about 10,000 cases in the Murray City Municipal Court, an increase of 1,000 over last year, and installed and trained employees on new software to improve efficiency.

The Murray City Municipal Court was realigned to include a Court Administrator. He is a liaison between the Judge and staff working on security issues, policy and procedures, and coordination with the Prosecutors Office.

Economic Development is evident in our City when you drive almost anywhere in our boundaries. Some of the new projects under construction include Stevens-Henagar College, Cameo College of Essential Beauty, and the Park Gate Apartments. Of course, the Intermountain Medical Center continues to change the skyline of Murray a little more each day.

If you see something big, yellow and in Station 82, you will have discovered the new 2005 Pierce Pumper now in service. It will play an important role considering the Fire Department responded to nearly 1,100 fire-related calls and 3,400 medical calls in 2005. They also shared two firefighters in response to the federal government's call for help following Hurricane Katrina.

Our Finance Department was honored for the 24th consecutive year with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. They have just completed a project providing our residents access to utility information without a customer service employee to assist them. The cash position of the City increased by \$6.5 million during fiscal year 2005.

Human Resources manages 389 full time employees, 10 part time employees and 517 seasonal employees. In the past year they have provided training on benefits, diversity and 'energizing our workforce.' Information on employment opportunities is the most requested item on the City web page. HR responds to all those requests.

The Murray City Library continues to use technology to provide information. For example, in the month of October, more than 11,000 patrons searched the catalog, renewed books or placed holds from home. More than 900 children registered for the Summer Reading Club. Shelving space in the Children's and Young Adult collections increased by 25% this last year.

The MIS Department is constantly on the go, as more work is done on computers. This year they provided more than 3,000 support responses for personal computers and operations, as well as set up 50 new PC's. If you are searching for anyone in Murray City, the new phone system has simplified that process. The MIS Department also installed a new Uninterruptible Power Supply in City Hall and added wireless network access.

Explore our Police Department and you will find new faces due to several retirements. The Department continues to focus on training - now using a new laser-based system to simulate realistic situations. I appreciate the attention they give to the youth of our community by providing the

D.A.R.E, Community Oriented Policing Services, and Cadet programs. The Health and Safety Fair, held in conjunction with the Fire Department, is a great community event helping our residents access resources for a healthy lifestyle.

The Murray City Power Department has completed the first year of the three-year transmission system upgrade project. They continue to offer 99.9% reliability and quick response to outages. The Supply Cost Adjustment implemented this year has helped balance efficiency, conservation and rates.

Our Public Services Department wears many faces and is easy to find around town. These are just a few of their contributions during 2005:

In Community Development, countless projects were reviewed and forwarded. For example, 149 residential lots or units were approved this year. Inverness Square is the largest adding 93 residential units.

The Intermountain Medical Center has dominated our building inspectors in 2005. They issued the final three permits of the seven main buildings on the campus, plus a permit for a laboratory building. I appreciate your willingness to help us respond more quickly to requests by allowing an additional inspector to be hired.

City engineers spent a large percentage of time overseeing the Cottonwood Street Overpass. Pending good weather, it should be complete in late Spring.

With the cost increases to asphalt and steel, some street projects have been scheduled later than planned. However, American Avenue, Union Park Avenue, 6300 South, Meadowview and Rappahannock Circle were some of the projects completed. The parking lot at Riverview Jr. High was also installed.

Storm water management continues to be a service requiring time and expense to monitor to the new federal guidelines. GIS has helped collect data on the storm system, especially in the annexed area.

The Fleet Services Department tests and maintains the City-owned fuel sites. In July we joined the State Fuel Network which shifts this responsibility to the network. This agreement allows us to purchase fuel at a lower cost at more than 350 new locations.

I am especially proud of the new rose garden our Parks employees worked to install. As I've been out seeing our City from every angle, one of my favorite views was the garden from the top of the Intermountain Medical Center across the street. The Park Department also replaced the roof on Pavilion 5 and installed new tables in other locations.

If you would like to participate in Recreation programs in the City, it will be easier to register with the online system being implemented. You can also check out the Murray Journal for the most up-to-date activity schedule.

The Heritage Center celebrated 25 years of service to our senior residents in December. Community Development Block Grant funding made it possible for them to add improvements to the outdoor patio, including a fountain, shade coverings and landscaping.

When searching for art and cultural events, there is no need to look outside our City. Employees and board members completed a new Downtown Historic Overlay District and set up a Board to review changes proposed in the District.

Murray Parkway Golf Course has improved its financial condition by cutting expenses, personnel and receiving separate funding from the Parkway fund. The Course's playing condition is continually being improved by the latest maintenance techniques. It was one of the few City-owned golf courses operating in the black this year.

The Recorder's Office worked to implement the new Business Licence Fee schedule that went into effect on January 1, 2005. They survived a major remodel of their office space this year and now have a new file room with shelving equivalent to 60 filing cabinets.

Most residents who come to City Hall are looking for our Treasurer's Office to pay a bill and find out what is happening in the City. The option to pay with credit cards is available as more citizens use computers to pay their bills. Those who use that method will miss a friendly chat with the employees in the Treasurer's Office.

Although not a department, the City Council Executive Director and Staff are valuable assets to the Council and all departments. They provide the link in moving the business of the City forward for Council consideration. I appreciate their willingness to coordinate and cooperate with us.

The employees of Murray City continue to serve our residents in an outstanding manner. I'm convinced that no matter where you search, they will stand head and shoulders above the rest.

Looking forward, our City stands to evolve as many projects move toward completion.

UTOPIA is continuing to make progress in providing fiber to all the homes and businesses in the City. Murray will be more than 60% built out by March and the rest is scheduled for completion by the end of 2007. Currently the providers include: MSTAR, Xmission, AT&T and Veracity with others to come on board soon. The take rate at this juncture is ahead of projections at 16% with some areas as high as 30%. I am very positive about the UTOPIA model and am enjoying exploring the opportunities it has given me in my home.

The Intermountain Medical Center will begin opening their facilities in 2007. It will become an economic driver as employees and patients take advantage of Murray City business services. Medical support facilities, housing, and commercial ventures will all be in demand for close locations to the hospital.

The Fireclay redevelopment and Transit Oriented Development project will begin to take shape over the next few years. It will be exciting to see this area transition into a productive, energized destination point in Murray. You have set the bar high for this project and I applaud the vision and direction you have provided as the RDA Board.

What will the next decade bring to our City?

There are some areas that need attention as we set goals and discover our future destiny.

I mentioned the Storm Water maintenance concerns. We have participated in campaigns to remind our residents "we all live downstream" and encourage proper disposal of waste materials. We are working with consultants to assess our storm water system, citywide, and are developing a plan to provide an adequate network to direct run off. I am recommending consideration of a citywide Storm Water Utility to fund these federally mandated utility improvements. Most cities in the County use this type of utility to keep their systems maintained and the increased costs to provide this service pushed us in that direction.

Public Safety continues to be an area of growing concern to me. When the City grew by 12,000 residents, we recognized the need to provide the best possible police and fire protection. A study was completed last Spring reviewing the locations of our fire stations. Several options were analyzed

to help deliver the fastest response times to our residents. My Public Safety Commission completed recommendations a little over a year ago and suggested building a public safety building. Part of their study considered the need for a permanent Emergency Operations Center as well as an earthquake safe facility to house our Public Safety personnel. City Hall, although a beloved landmark, is not earthquake safe.

So, with all that stated, what should the goals of Murray City be? I'd like to make 2006 a year of exploration. Where in Murray City is the best location for a Public Safety Building? With the challenges we watched our fellow Americans face during Katrina and the other natural disasters, it is time to do what is necessary to lead out in the face of emergencies. We also have the opportunity to consider the value of this property and the location of our current City Hall. Is this the best place for us to be during the next 50 years? I'd like to explore any other possible locations to see what might make economic, physical and historical sense. The driving question will be - "what will allow us to serve our residents best?"

In my searching, I plan to take advantage of the knowledge of respected members of our community. This is about more than economic development. It also will allow focus on our commitment to neighborhoods and keeping them healthy. I will set up a team and "Exploring Murray's Future" will become our mission. As information is gathered, I will keep you informed and will offer ways we can take advantage of the current economic drivers around us.

I will complete a staffing study of the Police, Fire and Courts in order to have long range numbers for build out of our City. This study is funded in our current budget.

The Fire Station Location Study recommended several options. I believe it would best serve our residents to have three stations, but they must be in the right locations. Station #83 is challenged by size and being located in a residential area. Station #82 should be relocated farther to the east, so we can respond more quickly to the annexed areas. The option of adding a fourth station does not deal with the challenges of Station 83 and would, I believe, be more expensive to staff and equip in the long run. Three stations in the proper locations can cover the City with good response times. The funding for these stations can be considered with the public safety building.

I hope you will join me in the search to set a vision providing the best possible resources for our Murray friends and neighbors in the future. I'm looking forward to seeing what lies in every nook and cranny of our City. I am excited about our great potential and I am certain the best is yet to come as we explore the "Best City in America" . . . Murray City.

Thank you.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS (Comments are limited to 3 minutes unless otherwise approved by the Council.)

C. CONSENT AGENDA

None scheduled.

D. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PUBLIC HEARING #0605

6:45 p.m.

**Consider a Resolution approving the
Mayor's appointment of Laverne A. Snow
to the South Valley Mosquito Abatement District Board.**

- a. Staff and sponsor presentations, public comment and discussion prior to Council action on the following matter:

Consider a Resolution approving the Mayor's appointment of Laverne A. Snow to the South Valley Mosquito Abatement District Board.

Staff Presentor: Mayor Snarr

Mayor Snarr noted Ms. Snow is working on her doctorate degree in Public Health. Who would be a better person to come on board who has the expertise and background. Ms. Snow does travel extensively around other states addressing health issues. We are very fortunate to have her in our community as a resident. She is willing to step up and serve on the Mosquito Abatement Board and the Mayor asked for her consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

- b. Council consideration of the above matter to follow Public Hearing.

Mr. Brass made a motion to adopt the resolution for the Mayor's appointment.

Ms. Dunn 2nd the motion.

Call Vote Recorded by Ms. Heales.

AYE/NAY

A Mr. Brass
A Ms. Dunn
A Mr. Dredge
A Mr. Robertson

Motion passed 4-0

PUBLIC HEARING #0604

7:00 p.m.

**Consider a Resolution approving the application
of the City for a grant from the UDOT
Transportation Enhancement Program
for funds to reimburse the City for part of the
costs to improve landscaping in an area near the
I-15 Interchange at 5300 South.**

- a. Staff and sponsor presentations, public comment and discussion prior to Council
action on the following matter:

**Consider a Resolution approving the application of the City for a grant from
the UDOT Transportation Enhancement Program for funds to reimburse the
City for part of the costs to improve landscaping in an area near the I-15
Interchange at 5300 South.**

Staff Presentator: Doug Hill, Director, Public Services

The Utah Department of Transportation is accepting applications for Federal Transportation Enhancement Funds. These funds are earmarked for various enhancement improvements along the Federal and State highway system. We have for the last two times, have applied and attempted to try and get some funds which would allow the City to landscape the interchange at I-15 and 5300 South. The Mayor has asked that we again reapply for these funds and see if we can make that happen.

Mr. Hill continued, the application does require a Public Hearing, which we are holding this evening. It also does require that public comment, if there are any, it also requires copies of the agenda & the minutes be placed in the application. As soon as the minutes and Resolution are available, he will submit the application, pending the Council's consideration and approval.

The estimated cost of the project is \$530,000, of which Murray City is responsible for approximately \$106,000. If we are awarded the grant that would be our financial responsibility.

Mr. Dredge asked Mr. Hill if they were planning on Xeriscape landscaping which we have seen in Utah County.

Mr. Hill noted that is exactly the plan they are submitting. If you have seen the interchanges in Utah County and other locations across the state, the one that we are proposing is very similar, it has very little water requirements. It is a lot of rocks and drought tolerant plantings, etc., as well as a "Welcome to Murray," entrance sign off of the freeway location.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED

- b. Council consideration of the above matter to follow Public Hearing

- . Mr. Dredge made a motion to accept the Resolution approving the application of the City for a grant from the UDOT Transportation Enhancement Program for funds to reimburse the City for part of the cost to improve landscaping in an area near the I-15 South.

Ms. Dunn 2nd the motion and hoped that if tax dollars are going to spent, let them be spent in Murray.

Call Vote Recorded by Ms. Heales.

AYE/NAY

<u>A</u>	Mr. Brass
<u>A</u>	Ms. Dunn
<u>A</u>	Mr. Dredge
<u>A</u>	Mr. Robertson

Motion passed 4-0

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None scheduled.

F. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Consider a Resolution approving an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Murray City, West Valley City, South Salt Lake City, South Jordan City, Sandy City, West Jordan City, Midvale City and Bluffdale City creating the Metro Fire Agency.

Staff Presentator: Chief Rodriguez

Chief Rodriguez noted this has been discussed before, and we have changed the Interlocal Agreement to meet our needs and now Chief Rodriguez would like to ask for your consideration and join the Metro Fire Agency.

Mr. Dredge asked Chief Rodriguez why should we do this?

Chief Rodriguez noted, special operations would be much more efficient, HAZMAT, Swift Water Ice Rescue, and Technical Rescue. It would involve all municipalities and all those that has expertise. The Chief thinks it would be less for keeping units where they need to be, it will not drain all the cities to do one specific thing. It will keep people if they need to be and call resources as we need them. We will still with the alliance, have the closest responder on all calls. It will be a benefit to all cities and all the citizens of Murray.

Chief Rodriguez won't say it is exactly like when we had paramedics services five years ago, it was the same type of thing. Will we do it, can we do it. It is going to be work and will have challenges, but we will work through them and are committed to that. It is going to work and it is going to have challenge, but we will work through them, because we are committed to that.

Ms. Dunn asked Chief Rodriguez to explain why we are considering this?

Chief Rodriguez noted, currently in the Salt Lake Valley, Special Operations Services is provided by Salt Lake County, who contracts with the Fire Authority. They are the ones that go on HAZMAT calls, fire investigations, technical rescues. Salt Lake City also has a HAZMAT rig. We have the capabilities, and we have the technicians. Murray City Fire Department has a water and ice rescue team.

By creating this Metro Organization, we can utilize all the resources that we have in the valley, not just the Fire Authority, or Salt Lake City. We have gone throughout the valley, all the municipalities have a good base, collectively together we have quite a cache of equipment. We also have the personnel. Right now the Fire Authorities of Salt Lake City each have a rescue or HAZMAT Technician. With the Metro Fire there would be at least 40 technicians at one time.

Chief Rodriguez continued, it also has the benefits of giving us an option to tax, that is not a real priority, but it is out there.

Ms. Dunn noted her reluctance is in no way connected to whether she judges your judgement, her concern is simply creating another quasi governmental agency that is really not answerable to citizens of our community. Whenever a decision is made, they have one representative and basically we have a bunch of other cities making that decision affecting our community. Ms. Dunn knows there are times when it works very well and there are times it doesn't. As long as you have good people in there, you are in very good shape.

Quasi governmental agency concerns her not just for those reasons, but also because most of the time cities are represented by City Managers and not by elected officials. There is a different rule that plagued elected officials versus City Managers that look strictly at the business.

Ms. Dunn is also concerned about the ability to tax. Again for the same reasons. Ms. Dunn does trust Chief Rodriguez.

Chief Rodriguez noted they also have the opportunity to choose not to participate in certain parts of the organization. Metro cannot tax as a group, it is controlled by the trustees.

Mr. Dredge said as he looks at this he can see the return to take advantage of the fact that different departments and different stations have different areas and expertise. Through this we could take advantage of those areas of expertise.

One concern Mr. Dredge has had is if we become so reliant on another unit, do we lose capability of morale.

Chief Rodriguez said no. One of the problems the Fire Service in general is facing, is we have all these technical jobs that they are trying to do, and no one station, no one departments can be experts in all of the jobs, and any fire department will tell you that.

Chief Rodriguez is honored to say Murray City Fire Department has their own HAZMAT Team and a Technical Rescue Team. These are our high risk low frequency events that take place, an example, if someone fell down a manhole. The same with HAZMAT, most of our HAZMAT calls are single unit response, and we all know that big one is out there and we all have to cooperate. Almost the opposite of what you are saying is we specialize and share in these resources and technical capabilities, we should be able to exist longer and stronger.

Mr. Dredge agrees with specialization and does not have a problem with that concept. His question is will we become a little more lacks in area we may have to train everyone in the past because we know that the other team can handle that and we don't necessarily need to be as up to speed.

Chief Rodriguez said no, all we have to do is train with each other and support each other. Like the bomb squad, it is not just 3 guys that show up. It is the support that they have. The same with HAZMAT, although they are specialties, we all have to support each other; the technicians are all involved. There would never be anything which they could not train on.

Mr. Dredge personally thinks that in today's world where the dangers seem to increasing, the sophistication of whether it be chemicals or all of the different things which we face, you have to specialize if you are going to be able to respond.

Mr. Robertson noted we all have expertise and we can share those back and forth in the training mode. We can increase our capabilities rather than lose them.

Chief Rodriguez noted they train with everybody. There is not anyone in the Department they haven't trained with.

Mr. Brass does see the value of that with the specialized training, but he is concerned about the funding, and why you can't tax. There are provisions in here for fees.

Mr. Nakamura noted the Agency will not tax, only the cities retain that right to tax.

Mr. Dredge noted he read that the Agency can be dissolved by 2/3 vote. If it is not working for Murray, can we opt out?

Chief Rodriguez noted yes we can.

Mr. Nakamura noted bound by the commitments made by the agency, such as any bonds or any contractual obligations. Unless you could find a party to replace us, in that agency that assume our liabilities, you can opt out, but there would still be an obligation in regards to those contracts.

Mr. Dredge made a motion to adopt the resolution approving the Resolution approving an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Murray City, West Valley City, South Salt Lake City, South Jordan City, Sandy City, West Jordan City, Midvale City and Bluffdale City creating the Metro Fire Agency.

Mr. Brass 2nd the motion.

Call Vote Recorded by Ms. Heales.

AYE/NAY

A Mr. Brass
A Ms. Dunn
A Mr. Dredge
A Mr. Robertson

Motion passed 4-0

G. MAYOR

1. Report

- ✓ Mayor Snarr noted Keith Snarr and he had an opportunity to go over and visit with a major engineering firm who decided to locate in Murray. It is fascinating to hear the reasons for locating in Murray. Their view is exceptionally spectacular. They are on the 3rd floor of a 4-story office building at the Pointe at 53rd.

They bring a wealth of experience to the table as far as different types of engineering. They took one floor, but they are already saying that they will need a portion of another floor. They are excited about the future success of Murray and that is one of the reasons they moved here.

2. Questions of the Mayor

None.

H. ADJOURNMENT

____ Recorded by Carol Heales, City Recorder